

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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64

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 051625Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 641

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9888

EXDIS

DEPT PASS AEC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG EG US

SUBJECT: ATOMIC ENERGY REACTOR FOR EGYPT

REF CAIRO 9814

1. ABAZA CAME IN TO SEE AMBASSADOR TODAY. HE AGAIN APOLOGIZED FOR HIS ERROR LAST SEPTEMBER 9 IN TELLING US GUEBEILY HAD PRESENTED MINUTER SULTAN'S AUGUST 27 NOTE DIRECTLY TO AEC COUNTERPARTS IN WASHINGTON (CAIRO 6974). HE HAD LEARNED ONLY A FEW DAYS AGO THAT GUEBEILY HAD NOT DONE SO. COPIES HAVE NOW BEEN SENT TO GHORBAL FOR DELIVERY TO DEPARTMENT AND AEC. ABAZA EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT REPLIES TO SULTAN'S QUESTIONS WILL BE EXPEDITED.

2. ABAZA CONTINUED THAT MINPOWER EXPECTS TO OPEN BIDS ON DEC 10 FOR NECLEAR REACTOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES. AMONG THOSE BIDDING ARE BECHTEL, BURNS AND ROWE AND OTHERS. GOE HOPES TO AWARD CONSULTANCY CONTRACT SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

3. MINPOWER IS ALSO TENTATIVELY PLANNING TO ANNOUNCE IT WILL OPEN BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT ON FEBRUARY 10. IF, HOWEVER, USG BELIEVES STATUS OF AGREEMENT WILL NOT YET BE FAR ENOUGH ALONG BY THAT TIME TO MAKE IT ADVISABLE TO PROCEED WITH CONSTRUCTION AWARD, MINPOWER PREPARED DEFER BID OPENING DATE FOR "A MONTH OR TWO." ABAZA WILL APPRECIATE ANY COUNSEL

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USG MAY BE WILLING TO OFFER ON THE MATTER.

4. ACCORDING TO ABAZA, MINISTER SULTAN IS STILL IN LONDON
RECOVERING FROM AN UNSPECIFIED OPERATION. SULTAN NOW HOPES
RETURN TO CAIRO IN JANUARY.
EILTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Draft Date: 05 DEC 1974
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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